

a housing comprising first and second inlets;

a single scroll case having first and second compartments, the first compartment having an opening on a first scroll case wall, the second compartment having an opening on a second scroll case wall;

a single door located in an area in proximity to the first and second inlets, the door being configured to change a position thereof within the door area;

a first air passage extending from the door area to the opening of the first compartment;

a second air passage extending from the door area to the opening of the second compartment along a third scroll case wall;

a structure formed on a surface of the scroll case facing the door area; and

wherein the structure is configured such that the position of the door relative to the structure can control air flows into the first and second passages from at least one of the first and second inlets.

- 13. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the structure is further configured such that, when the door is in a position closest to the structure, the first air passage is connected substantially solely to the first inlet while the second air passage is connected substantially solely to the second inlet.
- 14. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the structure is further configured such that, when the door is in a position closest to the structure, the door area is divided into two passages with substantially no fluid communication with each other.
- 15. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the structure is further configured such that the position of the door relative to the structure determines relative amounts of air flows through the first and second inlets into the door area, and further determines relative amounts of air flows through the first and second air passages.
- 16. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the door is hinged at a point between the first and second inlets, and configured to hingedly move between a position closing the first inlet and a position closing the second inlet.



Appl. No. Filed

09/894,787 June 28, 2001

17. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 16, wherein both of the first and second inlets are at least partially open when the door is at a position between the two closing positions.

- 18. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the structure comprises a wall extending from the scroll case toward the door area, wherein the structure constitutes a partition dividing the first and second air passages.
- 19. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the structure comprises a depression on the surface of the scroll case.
- 20. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the first and second inlets are configured to receive the air flows from different sources.
- 21. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, further comprising first and second fans, wherein the first fan is located in the first compartment and configured to generate a first air flow within the housing, wherein the second fan is located in the second compartment and configured to generate a second air flow within the housing, and wherein the housing comprises an internal structure configured to substantially separate the first air flow from the second air flow.
- 22. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the housing comprises a controllable structure configured to allow communication between the first and second air flows.
- 23. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the second scroll case wall is arranged in a substantially opposing relationship to the first scroll case wall.
- 24. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the third scroll case wall constitutes a wall of the second air passage.
- 25. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the first and second compartments are substantially the same in size.
- 26. (New) The air conditioner of Claim 12, wherein the surface of the scroll case where the structure is formed is a surface of either of the first and second scroll case walls.
  - 27. (New) An air conditioner for use in a vehicle, comprising:
    - a housing comprising first and second inlets;
  - a single scroll case having first and second compartments, each having an opening, the openings of the first and second compartments not facing each other;